

# Bioenergy Council Conference Meeting Notes

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April 8, 2014

**Teleconference held at 12:30 PM**

**Members Participating:** Jamie Derr (Co-Chair), David Donovan (Co-Chair), Mike Allen, Bob Sather, Gary Radloff, Dave Siebert, Jeff Landin, Tom Unke, Tim Clay, TJ Morice, Mike Engel, Mike Troge, Keith Reopelle, Dan Bahr and Pam Porter.

**Agency Staff Participating:** Amanda Mott, Deb Erwin, Ken Rineer, Dave Siebert, Roger Kasper and Ty Rohloff

## **Welcome and Introductions (Dave Donovan)**

Members present were able to introduce themselves and raise any topics relevant to the Wisconsin Bioenergy Council.

## **WEPCO/DOMTAR - Harvesting Guidelines Research Proposal (Deb Erwin)**

Deb Erwin reviewed a recent letter from WE Energies to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission. Discussion of this letter centered around the fact that the collaborative biomass plant between WE Energies and Domtar Paper was only procuring forest residues of 50,000 tons out of the originally planned 500,000 tons. The rest of the material is being sourced through commercial channels. After the letter was reviewed the question was asked as to whether or not the Biomass Harvesting Guidelines need to be reviewed. In regards to the guidelines and an audit on whether or not the requirements are being met, it was suggested that the coordinating government entities should be responsible for ensuring that whatever agreements they have with the operators are being met.

## **Urban Air Initiative (Bob Sather)**

Bob Sather commented to the group recent on a recent letter The Urban Air Initiative had drafted. The letter suggests that a higher blend of ethanol into gasoline will result in fewer pollutants and will also displace current aromatics that are added to gasoline.

## **Draft Recommendations:**

The recommendations will be written in a more direct fashion so that Secretary Brancel has specific action items to decide whether or not to act on.

## **Draft Recommendation 1 –**

A work group consisting of Jamie Derr (Chair), Dave Donovan, T.J. Morice, Mike Engel, Bob Sather and Keith Reopelle will be assembled to refine recommendation number one. Russ Raeder will be asked to participate as well.

## **Draft Recommendation 2 –**

Members Include, Dave Donovan (Chair), Deb Erwin, Mike Allen, Mike Troge, Tom Unke, Tim Clay, Gary Radloff and Amanda Mott.

### **Draft Recommendation 3 –**

Keith Reopelle (Chair), T.J. Morice, Deb Erwin, and Mike Allen will review recommendation number three.

### **Next Steps – (Ty Rohloff)**

#### **Membership Terms –**

Pam Porter and Gary Radloff both have terms that expired in 2013. They have each agreed to another term which will expire in 2017. Dave Donovan gave the unfortunate news that due to his new role with Xcel Energy, he will not be able to continue his role on the council. He has agreed to stay on through passage of final recommendations for Secretary Brancel.

#### **Future Meeting –**

A Doodle poll will be sent out in the next few days with some possible dates for a meeting to be held the third week of May. The chairs for each group will be responsible for setting up times that work for each of the individual work groups. Ty will be sending out another copy of the recommendations for those that want to re-familiarize themselves with the current recommendations.

### **Meeting Adjourned**